

Council 14/10/2026

Report by: Interim Corporate Director (Finance & Resources)

Lead Cllr: Liam Dewey-Beckett
Executive Councillor for
Governance & Democratic
Services



Wards	Open / Exempt	Key Decision?
ALL	Open	No

Scheme of Delegation 2026 - Updated

Executive Summary: Effective governance of a local authority requires the regular review and update of its Constitution, its Articles and Schemes to ensure it remains accurate and relevant.

The existing Scheme of Delegation has been reviewed to reflect changes in officer roles and posts and redrafted to enable a clearer understanding of the delegations that have been made by the Executive Leader and Full Council at the 2026 AGM.

This report is presented to the Corporate Governance Committee for review and then proceeds following any required amendments to Full Council in October.

Recommendations

- 1.1. Council to approve the revised Scheme of Delegations as set out in Appendix 1 to the report now submitted.

Key Corporate Plan Priorities

- 1 *Do our core work well*

Report Author

Lydia Morrison Interim Corporate Director (Finance & Resources)
(Lydia.Morrison@huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Effective governance of a local authority requires the regular review and update of its Constitution, its Articles and Schemes to ensure it remains accurate and relevant.

The existing Scheme of Delegation has been reviewed to reflect changes in officer roles and posts and redrafted to enable a clearer understanding of the delegations that have been made by the Executive Leader and Full Council at the 2026 AGM.

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2. BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

- 2.1** The Council has operated a Constitution Review Working Group for many years which serves an important function in enabling healthy governance and effective decision-making processes to support elected members. The Working Group has reviewed the Scheme and, with some minor amendments, approved it for submission to the Committee.
- 2.2** The Council is facing a very busy immediate future with local government reorganisation, and an accurate and accessible constitution will be vital to support effective governance during this period.
- 2.3** External legal advice has supported the review of the Scheme of Delegation. The main changes proposed are accurate job titles and a different tabular layout is proposed to make the detail more accessible. Wording has been addressed that was confusing regarding the separation of the Council's Scheme of Delegation and the Executive Leader's Scheme. Much greater detail has been provided for members and residents regarding proper officer delegations and the applicable legislation.
- 2.4** It is not within the remit of the Corporate Governance Committee to alter the detail of the Scheme of Delegation that has been decided by the Executive Leader and Full Council. This review focuses upon updating out of date references to post or legislation and redrafting the text to make it more accessible.
- 2.5** The Council has separately adopted the new National Scheme of Delegation of Decisions on Planning Applications at its meeting in July 2026. The Council's overall scheme of delegation refers to the old provisions under old legislation. These have been deleted. A holding comment is in the text as the Development Management Committee is continuing with its work on the scheme which is hoped to be concluded in September. Once that has occurred and following an update report to the Constitution Review Working Group, that text will be amended to reflect the final position before the overall document proceeds to Full Council.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED & NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1** There are no other options to reviewing and refreshing the scheme of delegation, when it has been acknowledged to be out of date and less than easy to interpret. That would be an abdication of duty to the Council. There may be alternative amendments and suggestions that the Committee might want to suggest,

4. COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

4.1 N/A

5. POST-DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 This report will proceed onwards to the Full Council.

6. IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

6.1 Council Key Priorities and Performance

6.1.1 Updating the council's scheme of delegation and making it more accessible will directly contribute to the effective delivery of the council's priorities.

6.2 Financial Implications

N/A

6.3 Policy Implications

N/A

6.4 Legal & Constitutional Implications

6.4.1 This report is entirely focused upon improving the accessibility and accuracy of the scheme of delegation.

6.5 Community Impact

N/A

6.6 Environment & Climate Change Implications

N/A

6.7 Equality & Diversity Implications

N/A

6.8 Implications on Resources

N/A

6.9 Health & Wellbeing Implications

N/A

6.10 Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) Implications

6.10.1 The review and updating of the scheme of delegation is to support effective governance during the period of reorganisation of the council.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

7.1 Having an accurate and accessible scheme of delegation will minimise any risks on using the scheme inappropriately or inaccurately.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS – LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Document List	Custodian	File Location
Constitution – Update 08.04.26	Lisa Jablonska – Deputy Monitoring Officer	(Location / Link to document)